MARKET
BEAT Patrick Manzi, NADA Senior Economist

A strong March sales performance provided a much-needed boost to new light-vehicle sales in the first quarter of 2019. After a sluggish start to the year due to the federal government shutdown and several weather-related events, the seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) of sales in March was at a strong 17.48 million units-bringing the SAAR for the first quarter up to 16.94 million. All car segments posted year-over-year declines in market share, while nearly all light-truck segments posted market share gains. So far this year, incentive spending is down compared to the same period a year ago, and we expect continued discipline from automakers with incentive spending throughout the year. According to J.D. Power, average incentive spending per unit is down $\$ 119$ to $\$ 3,821$ through March 2019. The Fed has signaled that we may not see any interest rate increases in 2019. This will help slow the monthly payment creep that we saw in 2018. Payments will still likely increase through the year because of rising vehicle costs, but we won't have the added pressure of cost increases coming from rising interest rates. We do expect that new-vehicle sales will continue to decline this year and are sticking to our sales forecast of 16.8 million units for 2019

(Seasonally Adjusted at Annual Rates)
Mar $2019 \quad$ Y/Y Change \% Jan - Mar $2019 \quad$ YTD Change\%

|  | Mar 2019 | YN Change $\%$ | Jan - Mar 2019 | Yo Change\% |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total Car | 5.08 | $-5.4 \%$ | 5.08 | $-6.4 \%$ |
| Total Light Truck | 12.39 | $4.4 \%$ | 11.86 | $1.6 \%$ |
| Domestic Light Vehicle | 13.65 | $3.3 \%$ | 13.12 | $0.2 \%$ |
| Import Light Vehicle | 3.82 | $-4.7 \%$ | 3.81 | $-5.0 \%$ |
| Total Light Vehicle SAAR | 17.48 | $\mathbf{1 . 5 \%}$ | $\mathbf{1 6 . 9 4}$ | $\mathbf{- 0 . 9 \%}$ |

Market Share, by manufacturer


Market Share, by segment


Market Share, by powertrain


Gasoline $92.4 \%$

| Diesel | $3.3 \%$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Electric | $2.0 \%$ |
| Hybrid | $1.9 \%$ |
| Plug-in hybrid | $0.5 \%$ |

